

RED CROSS WORK IN CIVILIAN RELIEF FULL OF ROMANCE

PATHOS ALSO IS MIXED WITH
THE TASKS THAT ORGANIZA-
TION SOLVES DAILY.

NO RED TAPE AND NO DELAY

Soldiers and Their Dependents Made to
Feel That They Are Entitled to
Assistance and It Is Ex-
tended Cheerfully.

One division of the Red Cross about which little is known is that of Civilian Relief. It bears that name to distinguish it from the Military Relief, but the work it does is closely akin to military relief because it always has a khaki-clad figure in the background if not directly to the fore.

The Civilian Relief Division is primarily aimed to help the soldiers in their private affairs, to aid them by aiding their families, to relieve mental distress and to solve domestic problems so that the soldier can proceed about his task of winning the war without being bothered by thinking of what is happening at home.

The importance of the work of civilian relief is readily understood when one knows what it does. When the next call for soldiers is made every one of the hundreds of thousands of young men who are called from their homes will receive a letter from the Red Cross. This letter will say, in effect:

"Is there anything we can do for you? Are there any questions concerning insurance, allotment of pay, provisions for those left behind that we can answer? Do you want advice? Call on us and we will help you."

Local Addresses Given.
These letters will give the local addresses and the names of those having the work in charge. These individuals have been furnished with handbooks explaining in detail all the rules and regulations of the government on the subjects interesting to the recruits, and, armed with these handbooks, the Red Cross worker can answer as correctly as the Attorney-General of the United States. This information is given fully and without charge.

On his arrival at camp the recruit finds notices posted giving the name and location of the camp headquarters of the Red Cross, and he is invited to write or call if he has any troubles. The persons in charge of these camp offices are trained social workers, sympathetic and of a character inspiring confidence. The soldier tells his troubles and advice is tendered and assistance is given if it is needed. When the interview closes the Red Cross person asks:

"Is there anything else we can do for you?"

That question, with its "anything else," often brings out the real purpose of the visit, a purpose that diffidence or some other feeling may have kept unspoken. When the "something else" is mentioned it is often a matter that the Red Cross finds easily adjusted, a trifle in itself but of vast importance to the persons most concerned.

Tragedy of the War Brides.

In the towns adjacent to every camp and cantonment are scores of relatives of young soldiers who have followed to be near their loved ones as long as possible. Often a bride follows her husband, only to find that his stay in the camp is about completed, his period of training is over and he is leaving for the front. Living in these camp towns is expensive, the population has doubled or trebled within a few months, rents are high and the cost of food soon exhausts the slender means the bride brought with her.

Perhaps she is looking forward with mingled feelings of joy and anxiety for the advent of a little stranger who may never see his soldier father. Perhaps she married against the advice of her parents—girls are prone to do that sort of thing—and does not like to appeal to her relatives. What can she do?

She can come to the Red Cross and tell her story, and right there her anxiety may end. The Red Cross will communicate with her relatives and with the relatives of her husband who has started for the front, from which he may never return. These relatives are urged to make some trifling sacrifices on the altar of civilization and patriotism. They usually respond quickly to the call.

Should the relatives fall the local chapter of the Red Cross in the town from which the soldier came is notified and assistance is asked. With a concrete case needing assistance the local chapter never has any trouble in raising funds to care for the expectant mother.

Assistance Is Certain.
But if relatives and local chapter fail the Red Cross does not fail, and financial relief is extended—not as a charity but as a right, as something for which the soldier at the front is paying with his time, his body and perhaps his life. The young wife is able to write to him and tell him that she is all right, that he need not worry

about her. This message makes the man at the front a better soldier, it improves the morale of the army, it is a service so important that its value cannot be overestimated.

Families of soldiers, left behind, often find it difficult to adjust themselves to changed conditions. The allotment of the soldier's pay and the allowance by the government is often insufficient for family needs, especially if unexpected sickness comes. Often a younger member of the family needs only a little time to become a breadwinner.

The Division of Civilian Relief investigates each of these cases. If necessary, a loan is made to meet an insurance premium or to pay the tuition of a young daughter at a business school to fit her for an office position. Is medical attention needed? It is furnished, many physicians doing work for a nominal fee when the request comes from the Red Cross.

These are merely suggestions of the problems that the Red Cross is called upon to solve. Multiply them by thousands and you have some sort of an idea of the work of the Civilian Relief Corps, work that touches towns, villages and farms all over this broad land. It is work worth doing and it is being done, and done well.

RED CROSS NEEDS 30,000 NURSES FOR WAR WORK

Four Thousand a Month Must Be Supplied if America Is to Do Her Share.

More than 2,000 American Red Cross nurses have gone to Europe for active service since last Easter, quietly, as American soldiers have gone and are going; under orders of obedience, like the soldiers; and, like the soldiers again, for the duration of the war, in the face of danger and hardship, prepared for any sacrifice to protect the lives of our fighting men.

The tasks of these women, who have gone on the supreme adventure of their lives, are the very embodiment of the Easter message. And still there is a call for more nurses. Moreover, many of them must be recruited from the Southwest.

Even though more than 7,000 Red Cross nurses are on active duty in military and naval hospitals and in public health work at home and abroad, it is probable that 30,000 more will be needed for the American army alone. Five thousand are needed by June 1 of this year and 4,000 more each month until the first of January. The Surgeon-General of the United States is urging the American Red Cross to do its utmost to provide these nurses.

Will Women Emulate Men?
Washington headquarters of the Red Cross believes that women of the Southwest do not realize the vital need of America for their services, else the response would be much greater. Red Cross headquarters recently made this announcement:

Nurses, and more nurses, if America is to win the war, is the cry of the nation to her women today. There are at present about 7,000 nurses in active service. And the first contingent of the American Army is scarcely in the field. Men are being called to the colors by the hundreds of thousands. Whether they will be protected and cared for when sick or wounded depends on whether American women are willing to make the same sacrifices their brothers are making. Failing in this, they will have done incalculable harm to the efficiency and morale of our troops.

Requirements For Applicants.
Requirements for enrollment as a Red Cross nurse are as follows:

An applicant must be a graduate of a school for nurses giving at least a two years' course of training in a general hospital.

Registration: In states where registration is provided for by law, an applicant, to be eligible for enrollment, must be registered.

Age Limits: An applicant must be at least 21 years and not over 40 years of age.

Indorsement: An applicant must be a member of an organization affiliated with the American Nurses' Association and indorsed by the Executive Committee, or by at least two officers of such organization. She must also be indorsed by the present superintendent of the training school from which she was graduated or the one under whom she trained. Her application must be approved by the Local Committee on Red Cross Nursing Service, and before being forwarded to Washington must be indorsed by at least two members of the local committee.

Southwestern division Red Cross officials believe there will be a ready response to the appeal for nurses once the women of the Southwest realize the imperative need for their services. The course in home nursing offered by the American Red Cross is a definitely established chapter activity of importance equal to any Red Cross activity.

Milton C. Work, a bridge authority, who is trying to raise \$100,000 for the Red Cross, is conducting a series of lectures, lessons and tournaments in St. Louis. He has obtained more than \$40,000 of the sum desired, and has turned it over to the Red Cross. His activities are taking him to all parts of the country.

For Sale—Milo and Cane seed, \$3 per bushel. J. R. Wilson. Adv. 11 2tp.

For Sale—1915 Seed corn graded and tested. P. Hendrickson, phone 1265. Adv. 11 2t.

Cash paid for your old iron. Ray J. Shaw, at Pickering's garage. Adv. 50.

WHAT THE RED CROSS IS DOING AND WHAT YOU CAN DO

NURSING SERVICE.

The course in home nursing offered by the American Red Cross is a definitely established chapter activity of importance equal to any Red Cross activity.

The American women are not ALL going to be able to knit, they are not ALL going to make surgical dressings, they are not ALL going to nurse, and our Red Cross offers opportunities for such varied activities that no woman can escape giving service and may serve according to her special qualification.

The course in elementary hygiene and home care of the sick, with its 30 hours of lectures and demonstrations and 240 hours of practical work in hospital wards, equips the young American women with a very necessary practical education. Women thus qualified are going to be called upon for service each year as the war continues—service that will be of real vital importance to war relief work. This course is a prerequisite for nurses' aids. About 100 aids are in service in France, assisting the A. R. C. nurse in infant welfare work, in the care of refugees and children and to act as interpreters. In the future they will be called upon to assist and supplement the professional nurses in their many branches of usefulness.

Each chapter should immediately organize to take care of this work. Chapters located in isolated communities, where no nurse is available as an instructor, are advised to appoint their committee, with a chairman who, realizing the value of this instruction, will stimulate the interest of all the women, organize classes of about 15 members each, then secure from some near locality an experienced teacher to remain with them the time it is necessary to give this instruction. The

proceeds from the class will warrant an instructor's exclusive time and attention and will not burden the chapter financially in any way. Where this class work has been successfully conducted the women taking the course have contributed in a very definite and very vital way to the activities of the Red Cross chapters.

The privilege of giving the practical work to the students who have successfully completed their course as per the textbook, "Elementary Hygiene and Home Care of the Sick," has been heretofore confined to such chapters as have organized a base hospital unit. With interest in this work growing as it has in the last few months, other hospitals will be located throughout the division to give this practical course.

The practical course of 240 hours in hospital wards will be offered by several hospitals in the Southwestern Division and it will be possible for every student of these classes to have this very valuable course of training. We must be prepared for a condition that is sure to arise in the future, though we are not able to see it just now.

LYDA M. ANDERSON,
Director of Nursing Service, 1617 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.

WHAT THE RED CROSS IS DOING AND WHAT YOU CAN DO

WOMEN'S WORK.

Garments: In hospital garments the greatest needs at present are for bed jackets, bed shirts and helpies that has a taped sleeve to go on over an injured arm.

In future Chapters will be asked to get along without sample garments, as it will answer the purpose equally well, and be far cheaper, if they will buy the paper patterns, which contain printed directions for making, and follow the directions. Every pattern

company issues the official Red Cross Patterns.

The hospital garment patterns are numbered as follows:

- 1 Bed Socks, bandaged foot sock.
- 2 Trench Foot Slipper.
- 20 Operating Cap and Operating Mask.
- 30 Hospital Bed Shirt.
- 35A Helpless Case Shirt (right arm injured).
- 35B Helpless Case Shirt (left arm injured).
- 40 Operating Gown.
- 50 Convalescent Robe.
- 55 Convalescent Robe (27-inch material).
- 60 Pajamas.
- 65 Bed Jacket A.
- 68 Bed Jacket B.
- 80 Underdrawers.
- 81—Undershirt.

The following changes should be noted in the refugee garment patterns:

Pattern No. 150. This shirt should be made without the double bosom and pocket. It is unnecessary to include these details in the garment.

Pattern, No. 156. Women's petticoat. It is unnecessary to have a yoke at the top of the petticoat. The garment may be made with a hem at the top, through which a draw string is run.

No pattern has been issued for boys' trousers, because any standard pattern for short straight trousers will be satisfactory. Material for these trousers should be brown corduroy if possible. Failing corduroy, any strong, warm, dark-colored material should be used for the trousers.

Knitting—There is a very urgent call for more socks. As additional troops are sent abroad they will have to have woolen socks, even in the summer weather. Anyone who can make good socks can be of great service now. Those who are doubtful of their ability to make them should try the rule which is published in our issue of March 4, which will be found much simpler than the one in A. R. C. 400.

MRS. EDMUND F. BROWN,
Director Women's Work, 1617 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.

WHAT THE RED CROSS IS DOING AND WHAT YOU CAN DO

CANTEEN SERVICE.

While the canteen service is being developed in this country, we are not forgetting the comfort of our boys across the sea. This interesting description of the canteen work abroad has just been received.

The War Council of the American Red Cross announces the receipt of the following cable from Paris Headquarters, under date of March 8:

At the request of the United States army, the American Red Cross has just arranged to install, with all American troops now engaged in actually fighting the Germans, a special front-line service. This is a development of the front-line canteens through which the American Red Cross has, during the past six months, served more than 1,000,000 French poilus with hot drinks and above all else given a friendly boost right up in or near the trenches themselves.

Today the Red Cross has 15 rolling canteens behind the lines. From these canteens are sent forward daily, often in the small hours of the night, 50 or more large receptacles containing hot drinks. These are served free to the men going on or just coming off duty. The work has proved itself to be of such value to the French that the American army has asked the Red Cross to have this service directly in touch with the medical relief stations nearest the front. The work is often done under heavy shell fire and requires men of great bravery and sympathy. Eugene Hale, brother of Ben-

jamin Hale, who has just finished six months without vacation with a rolling canteen near Verdun, in which he served thousands of French troops and gained great commendation from French generals who noticed the character of his work, said on returning to Paris just before leaving for America: "While the men are glad to have hot drinks, their chief satisfaction consists in the sense this service gives them of a friend being there to extend a helping hand and a cheering word at a critical or a tired hour."

American army officers are manifesting keen interest in having the service at the disposal of the American troops. The Red Cross plans to enlist in France and in America a substantial number of men of the highest caliber to undertake this wonderful service. It will be performed at the point nearest to the fighting line at which civilians will be permitted to come in any contact with the men.

CHARLES P. PETTUS,
Director Canteen Service, 1617 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.

WORK OF RED CROSS IS DESPERATELY NEEDED

It is Up to the Civil Population to
Determine Length of the War,
George W. Simmons Says.

It is right up to the civil population of the United States to determine the length of the war.

This is the stirring message sent to this country and particularly to the people of the Southwest by George W. Simmons, manager of the Southwestern Division of the American Red Cross, who is in France on a tour of observation for the War Council of that organization.

Simmons has been at the front with the American forces; he has seen what the boys from the Southwest and other portions of the country are doing; he has seen the work of the Red Cross "over there" and he sends back the message that if the people of the whole United States only will realize that this is a war of nations, not of armies; remember that the American army and navy will do their part, then we can make sure of a victory for America and her allies by acting as a nation, thinking as a nation, fighting as a nation. If we do that, Simmons says in his message to the Southwestern Division of the Red Cross, America will be the deciding factor in the war.

Nothing else matters if we do not win the war, Simmons says in a final appeal for harder Red Cross work and more ships with which to transport our men and supplies and munitions.

WHAT RED CROSS GIVES TO HOSPITAL PATIENTS

The following are the contents of a Red Cross "patient equipment" and a Red Cross comfort bag. These are given each patient upon his entrance into a Red Cross hospital:

Patient's Equipment—Six shirts, four pillow cases, two hot-water bags, three suits pajamas, two pairs bed socks, four hospital shirts, four pairs socks, one pair slippers, one bathrobe, three washrags, four face towels, two bath towels.

Comfort Bags—One tube tooth paste, one toothbrush, one cake soap, three shirt studs, one spool black thread, one spool white thread, one package needles, one thimble, six clothes buttons, 16 pins, four safety pins, one handkerchief, one pipe, one pencil, one pad paper, six envelopes.

RED CROSS HOME SERVICE WORKERS GUARD SECRETS

Home Service workers for the Red Cross naturally learn much of the private affairs of those whom they assist. They guard these secrets closely and never talk or gossip about matters that concern them only in an official way. Instructions on this point are explicit and emphatic. A recent communication says:

"How long would your physician last in your community if he told even one person the confidential, private information his patients had revealed to him? As a Home Service worker you are, in a sense, a physician to your families; therefore, take heed and reveal not a thing! Keep the trust they give you and hold sacred the intimate family matters they tell you about. You absolutely must do it!"

WHAT THE RED CROSS IS DOING AND WHAT YOU CAN DO

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP.

Salvage of waste materials which still have a market value appeals to young and old alike. Many Red Cross chapters are making large sums of money by collecting salvage and disposing of it at the best market price. This work is being done in the Southwestern Division by the Junior Red Cross.

Of the almost endless list of possible salvage the Bureau of Junior Membership has selected certain classes of waste material upon which it seems advisable to begin. The selected list includes only material which is really waste. No temptation must be placed before the children to get improperly any material which has not yet been condemned. Waste material to be handled by children must not be unsanitary or otherwise dangerous. It must not be subject to decay, it must not be too bulky, it must have a fair market value.

The authorized list is as follows:

1. Tin foil of all kinds.
2. Collapsible tubes which have contained tooth paste, cold cream, shaving cream, extract, vaseline and other toilet articles.
3. Old gold and silver and broken bits of jewelry for the "melting pot."
4. Silver-plated water pitchers, castors, teapots and trays.
5. Scrap zinc.
6. Clean dry-cell battery zinc.
7. Battery lead from storage batteries.
8. Rubber boots and shoes.
9. Arctics.
10. Rubber tire casing of all kinds.
11. Inner tubes.
12. Old wringers.

No old iron, glass of any kind, brass, copper, heavy lead, lead pipe or old clothing other than rubber will be received.

The tinfoil should be pressed firmly into bricks of 25 pounds' weight and wrapped in paper with the name of the auxiliary on the outside, and the weight.

The collapsible tubes should be packed as compactly as possible in a cigar or pasteboard box, wrapped in strong paper and tied and marked

JUNIOR RED CROSS IS DOING SPLENDID WORK HELPING TO WIN WAR

Hundreds of Thousands in Southwest-
ern Division Are Telling for
Men in the Trenches.

Hundreds of thousands of children in the Southwest are helping to win the war for America and her allies. There are not better patriots in the United States, in the whole world.

In cities and towns the children, a majority of whom are members of the Junior Red Cross, are working in thrift gardens, knitting sweaters, socks, etc., for our soldiers, turning old paper, rubber, metals and bottles into cash and investing the returns in thrift stamps and liberty bonds, making refugee activity of the Red Cross in which they can be of service.

In the country the children, who also generally are members of the Junior Red Cross, are raising pigs, sheep, rabbits, chickens, making gardens, doing general farm work to aid in the production of foodstuffs, canning and preserving, and like their city cousins they are buying Thrift Stamps and Liberty Bonds, knitting and making refugee garments.

Schools Close to Aid Juniors.

Many rural schools already have suspended until next fall and thousands of children have begun Spring and Summer campaigns which have for their purpose the doing of everything possible to win the war. In a majority of the towns and cities of the Southwest the schools still are in session and the children are taking their knitting to school with them and working on it at recess time and the noon hour, then doing other Red Cross work after school hours.

The pupils of 3,500 schools in the Southwestern division of the Red Cross have joined the Junior Red Cross since the membership campaign started early in February.

More than 100,000 children of the St. Louis schools are on the Junior membership rolls and 225,000 will have enrolled before the end of the campaign. This will make St. Louis 100 per cent Junior Red Cross. In other words, every child of school age who is in school soon will be a member.

Counties Use Unique Plans.

Tens of thousands more children will be enrolled outside St. Louis in the Southwestern division within the next few weeks.

Many counties in the division have enrolled every school, and many unique methods have been employed to raise the required membership fees.

In Johnson County, Kansas, for instance, 5,000 children were enrolled as members of the Junior Red Cross. In order to raise money with which to pay the enrollment fees of the children, a cherry pie making contest and auction was staged. Hundreds of the good women of the county baked cherry pies. The pies were auctioned at a social, and \$2,500 was raised. A committee decided that the most delicious pie was the product of a woman 85 years old, who is ardently interested in Red Cross work. Her pie was bid in by a man, also 85 years old, for \$12.50.

Each auxiliary should provide for the delivery of its own collections at the places designated. In case of inability to do so, assistance will be given by the chapter school committee.

For further information concerning the collection and sale of salvage apply to MRS. J. H. HOSKINS, Director of Salvage, 1617 Railway Exchange, St. Louis, Mo.